

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph on page 2, lines 28-29 as follows:

Figure 1 is an illustration of a humidified continuous positive airway pressure (CPAP) system as might be used in conjunction with the connector of the present invention,

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Please amend the paragraphs on page 4, lines 8-21 as follows:

As the water within chamber 4 is heated it will slowly evaporate, mixing water vapour with the gases flow through the humidification chamber from ventilator 1. Accordingly, humidified gases leave the humidification chamber 4 via outlet 12 and are passed to a patient or other person in need of such gases 13 through a gases transportation pathway or inspiratory conduit 14. In order to reduce condensation within the inspiratory conduit 14 and to raise the temperature of the gases provided to the patient 13 heating element ~~means~~ 15a is provided which is energised under the control of control means 11. The inspiratory conduit 14 is comprised of two sections a stiff section 14a containing heating element 15a and a flexible section 14b which contains a heating element 15b. The sections 14a and 14b are connected together by the connector 20 of the present invention.

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A ~~The~~ gases outlet ~~24~~ 12 on the humidifying chamber 21 is provided and conduit 14, conveys humidified gases to the patient at the end 16 of the conduit. The end 16 of the conduit may have a cannula connected to the patient's nose, nasal mask or face mask connected to the user's face, so as to supply humidified gases to the user.

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Please amend the paragraph on page 6, lines 7-12 as follows:

When a connection is made between the male and female portions 21, 22 as shown in FIG. 4, the contacts 21a, 21b fit into or touch the terminals 22a, 22b respectively. This securely fits the connector 21 to the connector 22 and allows rotational movement 23 about the y-axis 27 without loss of either electrical or gaseous connection. This connector also allows for the flexible conduit 14b to be supplied with current to power a separate heating wire ~~31~~ 15b in the flexible conduit 14b.